



## Parent's knowledge and perceptions of the health effects of environmental hazards in Sakarya, Turkey

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### Abstract:

**OBJECTIVE:** To assess the knowledge and perception of parents of high school students about the health effects of environmental hazards in Sakarya province of Turkey. **METHOD:** The cross-section study was conducted in May 2009 in which randomly assigned 362 parents answered a questionnaire inquiring about the sociodemographics and a list of environmental hazards such as tobacco smoking, sunlight exposure and skin cancer, global climate change, air pollution, noise exposure, smoking during pregnancy and low birth-weight, exposure to radon and lung cancer, reducing radon, air pollution and cardiovascular diseases, base station and childhood leukaemia, extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields and brain tumour. The participants were also asked about water pollution, environmental tobacco smoke, air pollution, ozone depletion, exposure to radon gas, soil pollution, noise pollution, formaldehyde related with furniture, ground ozone and pesticides etc. SPSS 15 was used for statistical analysis. **RESULTS:** Among the participants 226 (62.4%) were females, and 284 (78.5%) were in the 31-45 age group. There were 246 (68%) high school or university graduates. Of the participants, 357 (98.6%) knew that smoking was a health risk, but exposure to radon gas was not that prevalent (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin European Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)194; 53.6%). The most intimidating risk was claimed as unsafe water (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin European Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)311; 85.9%), while noise exposure was the least source of worry among the environmental risks (nEuro Surveillance (Bulletin European Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)134; 37.0%). **CONCLUSION:** There is a necessity to inform the public about less-known but significant environmental risks such as radon gas and noise exposure which may cause health problems.

**Source:** <http://www.pakmedinet.com/22164>

### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Public

## **Exposure :**

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure

## **Geographic Feature:**

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Europe

**European Region/Country:** European Country

**Other European Country :** Turkey

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified